AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A [[M]]method for searching a database to obtain an object that is related to an indicated object in a document, comprising:

(a) automatically creating a query directly from the indicated object, the query having a data structure that is recognizable by a search engine for the database, wherein the query is created by: ~~selecting a nearest word to a cursor~~

enabling a sentence comprising a plurality of words to be input into the document,

repositioning a cursor nearest to any one of the words in the sentence, wherein the cursor is capable of being repositioned nearest to any one of the words after the sentence in entered into the document, and

after repositioning the cursor, selecting the nearest word to the cursor in the sentence as the indicated object without having a user make a selection for the query in a separate document;

(b) providing the query to the search engine, the search engine searching the database for at least one object that is related to the indicated object;

(c) returning the result from the query of the database, the result indicating when at least one object is related to the indicated object;

(d) producing a display of a related object, so that the related object may be associated with the indicated object;

(e) indicating the related object is to be purchased over a network;

(f) providing financial information to an electronic commerce service over the network, the electronic commerce service enabling the purchase of the related object when the financial information is complete; and

(g) inserting the purchased object into the document so that the indicated object is displayed with the indicated text.

2. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the indicated object and the related object include data, the data comprising video, picture, sound, and text.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, further comprising:

(h) enabling a qualification engine to determine a context of the indicated object; and

(i) employing the context of the indicated object to automatically create the query for the database.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) A [[M]]method for obtaining an image from a database for insertion into a document, the image being related to an indicated text, comprising:

enabling an automatic creation of a query directly from the indicated text, the query having a data structure that is recognizable by a search engine for the database, wherein the indicated text comprises an automatic selection of a nearest word to a cursor when no indicated text is provided, wherein the automatic selection is achieved by enabling a sentence comprising a plurality of words to be input into the document and repositioning the cursor nearest to any one of the words after the sentence is entered into the document, and the query is created without having the user make a selection for the query in a separate document;

providing the query to the search engine, the search engine searching the database for an image that is related to the indicated text;

returning the result from the query of the database, the result indicating when at least one image is related to the indicated text;

enabling the display of at least one image indicated by the result from the query, a displayed image being selectable for insertion into the document; and

displaying a related image that is inserted into the document, so that the related image is associated with the indicated text in the document.

6. (Original) The method of Claim 5, further comprising employing a user interface component to automatically create the query for the database, the creation of the query being related to the indicated text.

7. (Original) The method of Claim 6, wherein the user interface component enables the indicated text to be edited.

8. (Original) The method of Claim 6, wherein the user interface component enables the indicated text to be chosen in the document.

9. (Original) The method of Claim 8, further comprising choosing the indicated text in the document for the query of the database from within an application program that provides the document.

10. (Original) The method of Claim 9, further comprising choosing a command to create the query for the indicated text, the command including an indication in a context menu, drop-down menu, pop-up window, dialogue box, toolbar and hot key.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 8, further comprising choosing the indicated text in the document for the query of the database from an application program that is separate from another application program that provides the document.

12. (Original) The method of Claim 5, further comprising enabling the indicated text to be chosen in another application program that does not provide the document, including a clipboard program.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 6, further comprising:

enabling a qualification engine to determine a context of the indicated text within the document; and

providing the context of the indicated text to the user interface component, the user interface component employing the context of the indicated text to automatically create the query for the database.

14. (Original) The method of Claim 13, wherein the determined context of the indicated text includes text, template, sound, video, picture, use and user preference.

15. (Original) The method of Claim 5, wherein the search engine is a local search engine, the local search engine employing the query to search for related images on a local drive that includes the database.

16. (Original) The method of Claim 15, wherein the local drive includes hard disk, floppy disk, tape drive, DVD and CD-ROM.

17. (Original) The method of Claim 5, wherein the query's data structure includes XML.

18. (Original) The method of Claim 5, further comprising employing a network component to communicate with the search engine over a network, the network including an intranet and the Internet.

19. (Original) The method of Claim 5, further comprising employing a result component to manage the result of the query returned by the search engine, the result component enabling the parsing, storing and display of the result of the query.

20. (Original) The method of Claim 5, wherein the result is in a metadata format.

21. (Original) The method of Claim 5, further comprising requesting at least one related image from the database that is indicated by the result of the query, the related image being provided as binary image data.

22. (Original) The method of Claim 21, further comprising employing an image component for managing the storage and display of binary image data.

23. (Original) The method of Claim 21, further comprising employing a navigation component to provide at least one control for displaying at least one related image.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 21, wherein a navigation component enables the display of a group of related images in a slide show, the group of related images being indicated in the result from the query.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 24, wherein the navigation component enables another group of related images to be displayed in the slide show, the other group of related images being indicated in the result from the query.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 24, wherein the navigation component includes a control for determining a period of time that each related image is displayed in the slide show.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 24, wherein the navigation component includes a control for indicating the number of the related images in the group that is currently displayed in the slide show.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 25, wherein the navigation component includes a control for, indicating each group of related images that are currently displayed in the slide show.

29. (Original) The method of Claim 5, further comprising enabling a help facility to provide an explanation of a chosen topic and the help facility being launched in response to an input.

30. (Original) The method of Claim 5, wherein the display of at least one related image further comprises displaying a thumbnail of the related image.

31. (Original) The method of Claim 5, further comprises including a digital watermark with the related image, the digital watermark including information related to the content of the related image.

32. (Original) The method of Claim 5, further comprises including a cookie with the query, the cookie including information related to a user.

33. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 5, further comprising:

indicating a higher quality image of the related image is to be purchased

providing financial information to an electronic commerce service over the network, the electronic commerce service enabling the purchase of the higher quality image when the financial information is complete; and

inserting the purchased higher quality image into the document so that the higher quality image is displayed with the indicated text.

34. (Original) The method of Claim 33, further comprising employing an electronic shopping cart to store a potential purchase of the higher quality image.

35. (Original) The method of Claim 33, further comprising enabling a parameter of the higher quality image to be indicated.

36. (Original) The method of Claim 33, further comprising enabling a use of the higher quality image to be indicated.

37. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 5, further comprising:

each time indicated text is employed to create the query, automatically saving the indicated text as an entry in a history file; and

enabling at least one of the entries in the history file to be chosen for the currently indicated text.

38. (Original) The method of Claim 5, further comprising embedding a URL with the related image pasted into the document, the URL providing a link to information associated with the related image.

39. (Canceled)

40. (Original) The method of Claim 18, wherein the network component employs a transmission device to automatically connect to the search engine for the database, the transmission

device including cable modem, network interface card, telephony modem, satellite dish and radio transceiver.

41. (Original) The method of Claim 18, further comprising employing the network component to automatically connect to the search engine for the database when the search engine is remotely located from the indicated text.

42. (Original) The method of Claim 18, wherein the network component employs a proxy server to automatically connect to the search engine for the database.

43. (Original) The method of Claim 18, wherein the network component employs a dial up facility to automatically connect to the search engine for the database.

44. (Original) The method of Claim 18, wherein the network component launches a browser to automatically connect to the search engine for the database.

45. (Original) The method of Claim 18, wherein the network component automatically connects to the search engine.

46. (Original) The method of Claim 18, wherein the network component launches a browser to manage a purchase of a higher quality image associated with the related image.

47. (Original) The method of Claim 18, wherein the network component manages a purchase of a higher quality image associated with the related image.

48. (Currently Amended) A system for obtaining an image from a database for pasting into a document, the image being related to indicated text, comprising:

(a) a client process for causing functions to be performed, including:

(i) enabling an automatic creation of a query directly from the indicated text, the query having a data structure that is recognizable by a search engine for the database, wherein the indicated text comprises a selection of a nearest word to a cursor and the query is created without having the user make a selection for the query in a separate document, the selection of the nearest word being achieved by enabling a sentence comprising a plurality of words to be

input into the document, repositioning the cursor nearest to any one of the words in the sentence, wherein the cursor is capable of being repositioned nearest to any one of the words after the sentence in entered into the document, and after repositioning the cursor, selecting the nearest word to the cursor in the sentence as the indicated object;

(ii) providing the query to the search engine, the search engine searching the database for an image that is related to the indicated text;

(iii) enabling a display of at least one related image indicated by the result from the query, the display of a related image being selectable for insertion into the document; and

(iv) displaying the related image that is inserted into the document, the related image being associated with the indicated text in the document; and.

(b) a server process for causing functions to be performed, including:

(i) returning the result from the query of the database, the result indicating when at least one image is related to the indicated text; and

(ii) enabling the search engine to locate at least one image in the database that is related to the indicated text.

49. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 48, wherein the client process causes further functions to be performed, comprising:

(c) indicating a higher quality image of the related image is to be purchased over a network;

(d) providing financial information to an electronic commerce service over the network, the electronic commerce service enabling the purchase of the higher quality image when the financial information is complete; and

(e) inserting the purchased higher quality image into the document so that the higher quality image is displayed with the indicated text.

50. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium having computer-executable components, comprising:

a component for automatically creating a query directly from indicated text, the query having a data structure that is recognizable by a search engine for a database, wherein the

indicated text comprises a selection of a nearest word to a cursor, the selection of the nearest word being achieved by enabling a sentence comprising a plurality of words to be input into the document, enabling a repositioning of the cursor nearest to any one of the words in the sentence, wherein the cursor is capable of being repositioned nearest to any one of the words after the sentence in entered into the document, and after repositioning the cursor, selecting the nearest word to the cursor in the sentence as the indicated object, and wherein the query is created without having the user make a selection for the query in a separate document;

a component for providing the query to the search engine, the search engine searching the database for an image that is related to the indicated text;

a component for returning the result from the query of the database, the result indicating when at least one image is related to the indicated text;

a component for enabling the display of at least one related image indicated by the result from the query, the display of the related image being selectable for insertion into the document; and

a component for displaying the related image that is inserted into the document, so that the related image is associated with the indicated text in the document.

51. (Currently Amended) A [[M]]method for electronically purchasing an image over a network, comprising:

(a) automatically creating a query related to an indicated object, the query having a data structure that is recognizable by a search engine for the database, wherein the query is created by selecting a nearest word to a cursor without having a user make a selection for the query in a separate document, the selection of the nearest word being achieved by enabling a sentence comprising a plurality of words to be input into the document, repositioning the cursor nearest to any one of the words in the sentence, wherein the cursor is capable of being repositioned nearest to any one of the words after the sentence in entered into the document, and after repositioning the cursor, selecting the nearest word to the cursor in the sentence as the indicated object;

(b) providing the query to the search engine, the search engine searching the database for at least one image that is related to the indicated object;

(c) returning the result from the query of the database, the result indicating when at least one image is related to the indicated object;

(d) indicating a related image is to be purchased over the network, financial information being provided to an electronic commerce service that enables the purchase of the related image when the financial information is complete; and

(e) when the related image is purchased, inserting of the related image into a document , so that the related image may be associated with the indicated object.

52. (Original) The method of Claim 51, wherein the indicated object includes data, comprising video, picture, sound, and text.

53. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 51, further comprising:

(f) enabling a qualification engine to determine a context of the indicated object; and

(g) employing the context of the indicated object to automatically create the query for the database.